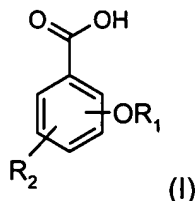


In the Claims:

1. **(currently amended)** A method for the antimicrobial treatment of substrates by applying onto or incorporating into said substrate a composition comprising ~~The use of~~ a compound of formula (I)



wherein

R₁ is substituted or unsubstituted C₆-C₃₀alkyl or substituted or unsubstituted C₃-C₇cycloalkyl, and

R₂ is H, COOH or substituted or unsubstituted O-C₁-C₃₀alkyl. ~~[[,]]~~

~~in the antimicrobial treatment of surfaces.~~

2. **(currently amended)** A method ~~Use~~ according to claim 1, wherein R₁ is substituted or unsubstituted C₈-C₂₀alkyl.

3. **(currently amended)** A method ~~Use~~ according to ~~either claim 1 or claim 2~~, wherein a composition comprising a compound of formula (I) is used in the antimicrobial treatment, deodorisation or disinfection of applied to the skin, oral or other mucosa, the surfaces of the teeth, or hair.

4. **(currently amended)** A method ~~Use~~ according to ~~any one of claim~~ ~~[[s]]~~ 1 to 3, wherein a composition comprising a compound of formula (I) is used in provides for disinfection or deodorisation of a substrate.

5. **(currently amended)** A method ~~Use~~ according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~, wherein a composition comprising a compound of formula (I) is applied to ~~used in the treatment of textile fibre materials.~~

6. **(cancelled)**

7. **(currently amended)** A method ~~Use~~ according to claim 1, ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~, wherein a compound of formula (I) is incorporated into ~~used in~~ washing and cleaning formulations.

8. **(currently amended)** A method Use according to claim 1 for any one of claims 1 to 7, wherein a compound of formula (I) is used in imparting antimicrobial properties to or preserving plastics, paper, nonwovens, wood or leather.

9. **(currently amended)** A method Use according to claim 1 for preserving commercial products. any one of claims 1 to 8, wherein a compound of formula (I) is used in imparting antimicrobial properties to or preserving commercial products.

10. **(currently amended)** A method Use according to claim 1 any one of claims 1 to 9, wherein a compound of formula (I) is used as incorporated as a biocide in an industrial process.

11. **(original)** A personal care preparation comprising

- a) from 0.01 to 15 % by weight, based on the total weight of the preparation, of a compound of formula (I) defined according to claim 1, and
- b) cosmetically tolerable adjuvants.

12. **(original)** An oral composition comprising

- a) from 0.01 to 15 % by weight, based on the total weight of the composition, of a compound of formula (I) defined according to claim 1, and
- b) orally tolerable adjuvants.

13. **(currently amended)** A method according to claim 1 for The non-therapeutic use of a compound of formula (I) in preventing the build-up of a biofilm of microorganisms and/or in removing a biofilm and/or in inhibiting or destroying microorganisms that form a biofilm.

14. **(new)** A method according to claim 1 for the antimicrobial treatment of a surface by applying onto said surface a composition comprising a compound of formula (I).

15. **(new)** A method according to claim 14 for the disinfection or deodorisation of a surface.

16. **(new)** A method according to claim 3 for the disinfection or deodorisation of skin, oral or other mucosa, surfaces of the teeth, or hair.

17. **(new)** A method according to claim 9 for preserving plastics, paper, nonwovens, wood or leather.